



The Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: Dante Valve Company, Inc.

File: B-232749

Date: October 4, 1988

DIGEST

A protest that an awardee's product, while meeting the solicitation's specifications, is nonetheless of inferior quality, is essentially a protest that the specifications are not sufficiently restrictive to provide the level of quality required. Since the objective of the bid protest function is to insure full and open competition for government contracts, the General Accounting Office generally will not review a protest that has the explicit or implicit purpose of reducing competition.

DECISION

Dante Valve Company, Inc. protests the award of a contract under solicitation No. DLA700-88-R-1732 issued by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) for the procurement of relief valves for use in seawater.

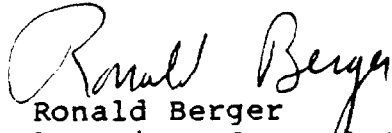
Dante claims that while the awardee's product meets the government's specifications, it is of inferior quality. Dante claims that the poor quality of these valves will over the long run increase costs to the government.

Since Dante admits the awardee's valve meets the specification requirements, there is no basis for us to object to the award. Moreover, while Dante's real complaint is that the specifications were not sufficiently restrictive to provide the government with the level of quality required, such a protest will not be considered by this Office. Since the objective of our bid protest function is to insure full and open competition for government contracts, our Office generally will not review a protest that has the explicit or

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implicit purpose of reducing competition. Malzahn Company,
B-225813, June 5, 1987, 87-1 CPD ¶ 574.

The protest is dismissed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald Berger".

Ronald Berger
Associate General Counsel